

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 23 through 35 and 49 through 71 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 16 and 21 and add Claims 97 through 103 as follows:

1. (Withdrawn) A receiving apparatus capable of reproducing image data and/or sound data, comprising:

reception means for receiving information consisting of image data, sound data, and additional system data;

reproducing means for reproducing received image and sound data on the basis of the system data; and

setting means for setting reproduction patterns in units of objects when the received image data has a data format segmented in units of objects.

2. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a memory for storing the reproduction patterns set in units of objects in correspondence with information indicating a broadcast program contained in the system data.

3. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said reproducing means reproduces the received image and sound data on the basis of the reproduction pattern read out from said memory when the reproduction pattern

corresponding to information indicating a broadcast program included in the received system data is stored in said memory.

4. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the reproduction pattern includes at least one of a display/non-display setup of an object, movement of a display position, and a change in display size.

5. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information is digital television broadcast, which broadcasts image and sound data encoded by MPEG 4.

6. (Withdrawn) A receiving method of reproducing image data and/or sound data, comprising the steps of:

receiving information consisting of image data, sound data, and additional system data;

reproducing the received image and sound data on the basis of the system data; and

setting reproduction patterns in units of objects when the received image data has a data format segmented in units of objects.

7. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 6, further comprising the step of storing the reproduction patterns set in units of objects in a memory in

correspondence with information indicating a broadcast program contained in the system data.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of controlling reproduction of the received image and sound data in the reproduction step on the basis of the reproduction pattern read out from the memory when the reproduction pattern corresponding to information indicating a broadcast program included in the received system data is stored in the memory.

9. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 6, wherein the reproduction pattern includes at least one of a display/non-display setup of an object, movement of a display position, and a change in display size.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 6, wherein the information is digital television broadcast, which broadcasts image and sound data encoded by MPEG 4.

11. (Withdrawn) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having a computer program code, for a method of receiving information, and reproducing image data and/or sound data, said product comprising:

receiving process procedure code for receiving information consisting of image data, sound data, and additional system data;

reproducing process procedure code for reproducing received image and sound data on the basis of the system data; and

setting process procedure code for setting reproduction patterns in units of objects when the received image data has a data format segmented in units of objects.

12. (Previously Presented) A receiving apparatus comprising:

a receiver, arranged to receive a bit stream, wherein the bit stream is multiplexed image data encoded by MPEG 4, image data and/or sound data encoded by another coding format, and system data;

a first decoder, arranged to decode the image data encoded by MPEG 4;

a second decoder, arranged to decode the image data and/or sound data encoded by the other coding format;

a third decoder, arranged to decode at least scene description data, program ID data, and character command data from the system data;

a character generator, arranged to generate character data instructed by the character command data using internal character data, wherein the character command data instructs the generation of the character data and a layout of a character represented by the generated character data;

a determiner, arranged to determine whether a program ID indicated by the program ID data and a registered program ID are coincident or not;

a setter, arranged to set a user layout to display images represented by a plurality of image data, which are decoded by said first and second decoders, and the

character represented by the generated character data, in accordance with the program ID and the coding format of the received image data, when said determiner determines that the program ID and the registered program ID are coincident; and

a synthesizer, arranged to synthesize the plurality of image data and/or sound data decoded by said first and second decoders and the generated character data, in accordance with the scene description data and the user layout so as to reconstruct the scene when said determiner determines that the program ID and the registered program ID are coincident.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said second decoder decodes image data and/or sound data encoded by MPEG 2.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising a reproducer arranged to reproduce the image data and/or sound data synthesized by said synthesizer.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising a memory for storing the user layout set by said setter in correspondence with ~~information related to a broadcast program received by said receiver~~ the program ID.

17. (Previously Presented) A receiving method comprising the steps of:

receiving a bit stream, wherein the bit stream is multiplexed image data encoded by MPEG 4, image data and/or sound data encoded by another coding format, and system data;

decoding the image data encoded by MPEG 4;

decoding the image data and/or sound data encoded by the other coding format;

decoding the system data to output at least scene description data, program ID data, and character command data;

generating character data instructed by the character data using internal character data of an apparatus receiving the bit stream, wherein the command instructs the generation of the character data and a layout of a character represented by the generated character data;

determining whether a program ID indicated by the program ID data and a registered program ID are coincident;

setting a user layout to display images represented by a plurality of image data, which are decoded in the decoding steps and the character represented by the generated character data, in accordance with the program ID and the coding format of the received image data, when the determining step determines that the program ID and the registered program ID are coincident; and

synthesizing the plurality of image data and/or sound data decoded in the decoding steps and the generated character data, in accordance with the scene description

data and the user layout so as to reconstruct the scene when the determining step determines that the program ID and the registered program ID are coincident.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the other coding format is MPEG 2.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of reproducing the image data and/or sound data synthesized in said synthesizing step.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of storing the user layout set in said setting step in a memory in correspondence with ~~information related to a broadcast program received in said receiving step~~ the program ID.

22. (Previously Presented) A computer program product stored on a computer readable medium comprising computer program code, for a receiving method, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a bit stream, wherein the bit stream is multiplexed image data

encoded by MPEG 4, image data and/or sound data encoded by another coding format, and system data;

decoding the image data encoded by MPEG 4;

decoding the image data and/or sound data encoded by the other coding format;

decoding the system data to output at least scene description data, program ID data, and character command data;

generating character data instructed by the character data using internal character data of an apparatus receiving the bit stream, wherein the character command data instructs the generation of the character data and a layout of a character represented by the generated character data;

determining whether a program ID indicated by the program ID data and a registered program ID are coincident;

setting a user layout to display images represented by a plurality of image data, which are decoded in the decoding steps and the character represented by generated character data, in accordance with the program ID and the coding format of the received image data, when the determining step determines that the program ID and the registered program ID are coincident; and

synthesizing the plurality of image data and/or sound data decoded in the decoding steps and the generated character data, in accordance with the scene description data and the user layout so as to reconstruct the scene when the determining step determines that the program ID and the registered program ID are coincident.

23-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Withdrawn) A receiving apparatus comprising:

reception means for receiving a digital data sequence which is encoded by MPEG 4 and includes image data and/or sound data encoded by another coding scheme;

first decoding means for decoding image data, sound data, and system data from the digital data sequence encoded by MPEG 4;

second decoding means for decoding the image data and/or sound data encoded by the other coding scheme;

setting means for setting a reproduction pattern corresponding to category information which is included in the system data and indicates contents of the received digital data sequence; and

control means for controlling the reproduction pattern of the image data and/or sound data decoded by said first and second decoding means on the basis of the decoded system data and set reproduction pattern.

37. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 36, wherein said second decoding means decodes image data and/or sound data encoded by MPEG 2.

38. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 36, further comprising a memory for storing the reproduction pattern corresponding to the category information in

correspondence with the category information and object information indicating contents of an object that forms an image.

39. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 38, wherein said setting means reads out the reproduction pattern corresponding to the category information, and said control means controls a layout of an object corresponding to the object information, which is stored in correspondence with the readout reproduction pattern .

40. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 36, further comprising:
setting means for manually setting a layout of a predetermined object; and
a memory for storing the layout set by said setting means together with the category information and object information of the predetermined object as information indicating the reproduction pattern.

41. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein said setting means reads out the reproduction pattern corresponding to the category information, and said control means controls a layout of an object corresponding to the object information, which is stored in correspondence with the readout reproduction pattern.

42. (Withdrawn) A receiving method comprising the steps of:

receiving a digital data sequence which is encoded by MPEG 4 and includes image data and/or sound data encoded by another coding scheme;

decoding image data, sound data, and system data from the digital data sequence encoded by MPEG 4;

decoding the image data and/or sound data encoded by the other coding scheme;

setting a reproduction pattern corresponding to category information which is included in the system data and indicates contents of the received digital data sequence; and

controlling the reproduction pattern of the image data and/or sound data decoded in the first and second decoding steps on the basis of the decoded system data and set reproduction pattern.

43. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 42, wherein the other coding scheme is MPEG 2.

44. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 42, further comprising the step of storing the reproduction pattern corresponding to the category information in a memory in correspondence with the category information and object information indicating contents of an object that forms an image.

45. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 44, wherein the setting step includes the step of reading out the reproduction pattern corresponding to the category information, and the control step includes the step of controlling a layout of an object corresponding to the object information, which is stored in correspondence with the readout reproduction pattern.

46. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 42, further comprising:
manually setting a layout of a predetermined object; and
storing the set layout in a memory together with the category information and object information of the predetermined object as information indicating the reproduction pattern.

47. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 46, wherein the setting step includes the step of reading out the reproduction pattern corresponding to the category information, and the control step includes the step of controlling a layout of an object corresponding to the object information, which is stored in correspondence with the readout reproduction pattern.

48. (Withdrawn) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having a computer program code, for a receiving method, said product comprising:

receiving process procedure code for receiving a digital data sequence which is encoded by MPEG 4 and includes image data and/or sound data encoded by another coding scheme;

first decoding process procedure code for decoding image data, sound data, and system data from the digital data sequence encoded by MPEG 4;

second decoding process procedure code for decoding the image data and/or sound data encoded by the other coding scheme;

setting process procedure code for setting a reproduction pattern corresponding to category information which is included in the system data and indicates contents of the received digital data sequence; and

controlling process procedure code for controlling the reproduction pattern of the image data and/or sound data decoded in the first and second decoding steps on the basis of the decoded system data and set reproduction pattern.

49-71. (Cancelled)

72. (Withdrawn) A receiving apparatus comprising:

reception means for receiving a digital data sequence which is encoded by a first scheme and includes image data encoded by a second scheme;

first decoding means for decoding image data and system data from the digital data sequence encoded by the first scheme;

second decoding means for decoding the image data encoded by the second scheme;

obtaining means for obtaining a current time; and

control means for controlling a reproduction pattern of the image data decoded by said first and second decoding means on the basis of the decoded system data, and time information obtained by said obtaining means.

73. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 72, wherein the first scheme is MPEG 4, and the second scheme is MPEG 2.

74. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 72, wherein the first scheme is MPEG 2, and the second scheme is MPEG 4.

75. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 72, wherein said control means controls the reproduction pattern of the image data in units of objects of the image data.

76. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 72, wherein said control means identifies an object to be controlled on the basis of the system data.

77. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 72, wherein said obtaining means obtains the current time from the system data.

78. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 72, further comprising a memory for holding a plurality of reproduction patterns, and wherein said control means reproduces an image based on the reproduction pattern when the reproduction pattern corresponding to the time information is held in said memory.

79. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 72, further comprising:
setting means for manually setting a layout of a predetermined object in correspondence with the time information; and
a memory for holding the layout set by said setting means together with object information of the predetermined object as information indicating the reproduction pattern.

80. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 79, wherein said setting means sets at least one of a reproduction ON/OFF state, reproduction position, and reproduction size of the predetermined object.

81. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 79, wherein said control means reads out the reproduction pattern corresponding to the time information from said memory, and controls a layout of an object corresponding to the object information, which is stored in correspondence with the readout reproduction pattern.

82. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 72, wherein said first and second decoding means further decode sound data from the digital data sequence, and said control means further controls a reproduction pattern of the decoded sound data on the basis of the system data and the time information.

83. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 82, wherein said control means controls a reproduction level and/or sound field lateralization of a sound object.

84. (Withdrawn) A receiving method comprising the steps of:
receiving a digital data sequence which is encoded by a first scheme and includes image data encoded by a second scheme;
decoding image data and system data from the digital data sequence encoded by the first scheme;
decoding the image data encoded by the second scheme;
obtaining a current time; and
controlling a reproduction pattern of the image data decoded in the first and second decoding steps on the basis of the decoded system data and the obtained time information.

85. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 84, wherein the first scheme is MPEG 4, and the second scheme is MPEG 2.

86. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 84, wherein the first scheme is MPEG 2, and the second scheme is MPEG 4.

87. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 84, wherein the control step includes the step of controlling the reproduction pattern of the image data in units of objects of the image data.

88. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 84, wherein the control step includes the step of identifying an object to be controlled on the basis of the system data.

89. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 84, wherein the obtaining step includes the step of obtaining the current time from the system data.

90. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 84, further comprising the steps of:

holding a plurality of reproduction patterns in a memory; and
reproducing an image based on the reproduction pattern when the reproduction pattern corresponding to the time information is held in the memory.

91. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 84, further comprising:

manually setting a layout of a predetermined object in correspondence with the time information; and

holding the set layout in a memory together with object information of the predetermined object as information indicating the reproduction pattern.

92. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 91, wherein the setting step includes the step of setting at least one of a reproduction ON/OFF state, reproduction position, and reproduction size of the predetermined object.

93. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 91, wherein the control step includes the step of reading out the reproduction pattern corresponding to the time information from the memory, and controlling a layout of an object corresponding to the object information, which is stored in correspondence with the readout reproduction pattern.

94. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 84, wherein the decoding step includes the step of further decoding sound data from the digital data sequence, and the control step includes the step of controlling a reproduction pattern of the decoded sound data on the basis of the system data and the time information.

95. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 94, wherein the control step includes the step of controlling a reproduction level and/or sound field lateralization of a sound object.

96. (Withdrawn) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having a computer program code, for a receiving method, said product comprising:

receiving process procedure code for receiving a digital data sequence which is encoded by a first scheme and includes image data encoded by a second scheme;

first decoding process procedure code for decoding image data and system data from the digital data sequence encoded by the first scheme;

second decoding process procedure code for decoding the image data encoded by the second scheme;

obtaining process procedure code for obtaining a current time; and

controlling process procedure code for controlling a reproduction pattern of the image data decoded in the first and second decoding steps on the basis of the decoded system data and the obtained time information.

97. (New) An apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said memory is capable of storing a plurality of the user layouts corresponding to a respective plurality of program IDs, and a user layout of the plurality of user layouts is selected in accordance with the program ID.

98. (New) An apparatus according to claim 97, wherein the program ID is uniquely specified for each program.

99. (New) An apparatus according to claim 98, wherein the user layout comprises manually-specified, per-MPEG4-object scaling information for scaling an MPEG4 object.

100. (New) An apparatus according to claim 98, wherein the user layout comprises manually-specified, per-MPEG4-object position information for adjusting the position of an MPEG4 object.

101. (New) An apparatus according to claim 98, wherein the user layout comprises manually-specified, per-MPEG4-object display/non-display information for controlling the display/non-display of an MPEG4 object.

102. (New) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the user layout further effects a change in audio output format.

103. (New) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the position of an object in the user layout is defined by a) the user shifting the position of the object from a basic layout specified by scene description data, or b) the user setting the position of the object at an arbitrary position.